

Bell companies operate an "essential facility", and should have to accommodate other ISP firms that wish to purchase access from them. This wholesale provisioning will stimulate competition and be of benefit to the consumers. To not do so would cripple the '96 Telecom Act. Chairman Powell: Please do not sell out to BIG BUSINESS, at the expense of competition and the small businesses of our country.

The United States Government has already made one major mistake in dealing with the telephone communications industry in allowing the "baby Bells" to merge after having forced AT&T to break up to form them. Don't complicate the mistake by giving them additional freedom to continue to screw the public.